

HISTORY

The introduction of invasive species into the U.S. has increased as result of the global commerce, causing major ecological disturbance and economic losses to agriculture, homeowners, and land managers. Invasive species usually lack of their natural enemies, consequently, specific natural enemies released in the U.S. can restore the ecological balance. The successful implementation of this technique produces self-sustaining and biologically based management technologies to control invasive pests.

The South American Biological Control Laboratory (SABCL) was settled in Argentina in 1962 to study the insects to control alligator weed in the US. The success achieved in the reduction of this weed by three insects from Argentina motivated the start of a second project, Waterhyacinth. Several insects were released and are now in many tropical places around the world to control Waterhyacinth.

In total, SABCL has worked with 43 targets and more than 200 natural enemies. At present, projects include weed and insect pests in the US, Australia and South Africa. Current US cooperators are located in Gainesville, Ft. Lauderdale and Tallahassee, FL, Albany, CA, Beltsville, MD, and Hilo, HI. So far, 23 organisms for biocontrol have been developed or co-developed at SABCL and field released. Other organisms are still under quarantine conditions. Administratively, SABCL reports to the USDA-ARS-National Program Staff, Beltsville, MD.

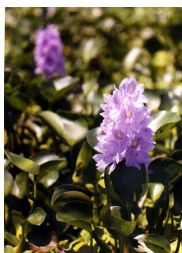
MISSION

Find, evaluate, and ship to the US and/or other cooperator country biological control agents against selected pests. Provide guidance and logistic support to scientists conducting research in Argentina. Act as liaison with agricultural research agencies and universities for detecting areas of potential cooperative work. Report and publish the results of the investigations.

ARS TARGETS

Waterhyacinth

Eichhornia crassipes



Brazilian Peppertree

Schinus terebinthifolius



Brazilian Water Weed

Egeria densa



Water Primrose

Ludwigia hexapetala



Waterlettuce

Pistia stratiotes



Imported Fire Ants

Solenopsis invicta
S. richteri



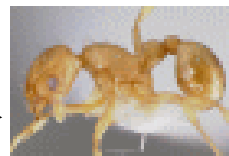
Cactus moth

Cactoblastis cactorum



Little fire ant

Wasmannia auropunctata



NON ARS TARGETS

Cabomba caroliniana, *Alternanthera philoxeroides*, *Phyla canescens*, *Parkinsonia aculeata* (CSIRO, Australia); *Cardiospermum grandiflorum*, *Campuloclinium macrocephalum*, *Chromolaena odorata*, *Anredera cordifolia* (PPRI, Sudáfrica).

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BENEFICIAL ORGANISMS DEVELOPED at SABCL and THEIR TARGETS

1- RELEASED

Agasicles hygrophila, alligator weed, 1964
Aminothrips andersonii, alligator weed, 1967
Orthogalumna terebrantis, waterhyacinth, 1968
Arcolla malloi, alligator weed, 1971
Neochetina eichorniae, waterhyacinth, 1972
Neochetina bruchi, waterhyacinth, 1974
Niphograpta albiguttalis, waterhyacinth, 1977
Disonycha argentinensis, alligator weed, 1980
Xubida infusella, waterhyacinth, 1982
Neohydronomus affinis, waterlettuce, 1982
Heilipodus ventralis, snakeweed, 1988
Ontherus sulcator, dung, 1992
Gromphas lacordairei, dung, 1992
Penthobruchus germaini, retama, 1995
Thelohania solenopsae, imported fire ants, 1996
Evippe sp., mesquite, 1998
Prosopidopsilla flava, mesquite, 1998
Pseudacteon curvatus I, imported fire ants, 2000
Pseudacteon curvatus II, imported fire ants, 2000
Pseudacteon tricuspis, imported fire ants, 2003
Gratiana boliviana, tropical soda apple, 2003
Pseudacteon litoralis, imported fire ants, 2004
Pseudacteon obtusus, imported fire ants, 2008

2- IN QUARANTINE

Clinodiplosis alternantherae, alligator weed, Brisbane, Australia
Vairimorpha invictae, imported fire ants, Gainesville, FL
Gonatocerus spp., glassy-winged sharpshooter, Riverside, CA
Megamelus scutellaris, waterhyacinth, Ft. Lauderdale, FL
Coeloccephalapion gandolfi, mesquite, Pretoria, South Africa
Apocnemidophorus blandus, Brazilian peppertree, UF Gainesville, FL
Chlorosteymon simaethis, balloon vine, Pretoria, South Africa
Cissoanthonomus tuberculipennis, balloon vine, Pretoria, South Africa
Liothrips sp., pompom weed, Hilton, South Africa
Cochylis n.sp., pompom weed, Hilton, South Africa
Adaina sp. pompom weed, Hilton, South Africa
Pseudacteon nocens, imported fire ants, Gainesville, FL
Pseudacteon cultellatus, imported fire ants, Gainesville, FL
Hydrotimetes natans, fanwort, Brisbane, Australia
Thrypticus truncatus, waterhyacinth, Ft. Lauderdale, FL
Taosa sp., waterhyacinth, Ft. Lauderdale, FL
Systema nitentula, alligator weed, Brisbane, Australia



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**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE**

**AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH
SERVICE**



**HURLINGHAM
BUENOS AIRES
ARGENTINA**

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